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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 7TH JULY.

WITH REGARD to the last annual meeting of the British Indian Association *Allen's Indian Mail* says: The report will be read with care by all who take an interest in the land question, so vital in its importance to India. The speeches will all well repay perusal; and we imagine no unbiased person will read them without becoming convinced of the terrible mischief that Lord Ripon's wild schemes of revolution are hatching. The iniquitous Bengal Tenancy Bill is naturally the chief object of attack.

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT have published a new "General Staff Map" which places the new frontier of Russia within fifty miles of Herat and includes within that frontier, territory hitherto always recognised as Afgan. Freaks like this, innocent as they appear, must have led to the proposal of despatching an Anglo-Russian Commission for definitely settling the Frontier question once for all.

WE REGRET to announce the death of Mr. Charles Piffard, Barrister at-law and Clerk of the Crown, gh Court, on Wednesday 2nd July. The deceased was well-known for many acts of kindness to the poor of his own community by whom his death will be severely felt.

A MONSTER MEETING of the inhabitants of Madras, native and European, was held at Patcheappah's Hall on the evening of the 3rd of July, Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao presiding. Nearly fifteen thousand people attended and numerically the meeting is said to have been quite unprecedented in Madras. Great enthusiasm prevailed and coincident meetings were held in and around the hall in Tamil, Telugu and English. The meeting unanimously adopted memorials to the Parliament and to the Viceroy protesting against the annual *Exodus* of the Government to the Hills and the proposed removal of the Military Account offices to Bangalore. The "benighted presidency" has taken the lead in this right move and it now remains to be seen how the other Presidencies support the movement. Never was public opinion so thoroughly unanimous in this country as about this momentous question and properly organised agitation is all that is wanted to secure success.

MR. H. L. DAMPIER senior member of the Calcutta Revenue Board shortly leaves for England and is not likely to return to India. Mr. H. A. Cockerell the junior member will go on leave soon as also will Mr. Mackenzie. It has not yet transpired as to who will officiate for Mr. Cockerell. Rumour points to Mr. Peacock as the probable successor. Mr. F. H. Fellow, Commissioner of Daeca, retires from the service at the end of August next, and Mr. N. Alexander who is at present officiating for him will be confirmed in the appointment.

THE Kolapore Albert Edward Hospital erected in honor of the Prince of Wales' visit to India was opened on the 3rd of July by Colonel Reeves who in the course of his address announced the intention of the Durbar to open a female medical class in connection with the Hospital. The noble example is well worth following by our rich native princes.

BOMBAY is quite up to the mark in its reputation for enterprise. The Exhibition Guarantee Fund is said to have already reached the magnificient sum of ten lacs and the Municipal Corporation will subscribe another lac. It is now currently believed, that exclusive of Government contribution, 15 lacs can be easily obtained. Could the "city of Palaces" boast of any thing like this? It is a pity M. Joubert is not likely to be permitted to go in for the lion's share of "good things" as he had expected.

WONDERS in science will never cease. The latest invention is an apparatus which will easily expand the stomach and with the aid of the electric light enable the physician to detect any derangements that may have taken place in that hitherto "inaccessible and unexplored region."

THE FOLLOWING letter was written to Mrs. Booth of the Salvation Army from Windsor Castle:—"*Her Majesty the Queen* learns with much satisfaction that you have been successful in your efforts to win many thousands to the ways of temperance, virtue and religion." And yet how roughly were these people handled by the Bombay authorities!

THE FIRST vo'e that Lord Tennyson will give in the House of Lords will be, it is expected, in favour of the second reading of the Franchise Bill.

TUESDAY, 8TH JULY.

THE Duke of Westminister is said to have backed his recent London speech, advocating Sunday opening of Museums by throwing open on Sundays the whole of the grounds and gardens of the Eaton Hall to the labourers on the Estate.

WE CONGRATULATE Dr. S. C. Roy on his election to the new Professorship of Pathology at Cambridge. It is, we believe, the first time that a native of India has been thus honored. It is to be regretted that the claims of such distinguished scientific men are not so fully recognised by the Indian and Local Governments as is desirable.

WE ARE glad to hear that Kumar Indir Chunder Sing of Paikpara has made a donation of Rs. 500 to the Albert Hall, 100 to the Brahmo Somaj of India and Rs. 100 to the Brahmo Mission Fund.

COMPLAINTS about the laxity of the Mofussil Police are becoming too frequent now-a-days. The late numbers of the *Pratikar* of Baharampore, the *Charu Barta* of Sahar Sherpore and the *Bharat Mihir* of Mymensing have given publicity to cases of Police oppression which we hope will draw the attention of the authorities and be properly enquired into.

WE ARE likely to have another sailor prince in the person of the Duke of Edinburgh's son Prince Alfred, who we are told will make his first trip to sea with his father in the summer cruise of the channel squadron. It is really gratifying to see Princes Royal engaged in the active duties of life.

A WOMAN in a village in South Hungary has been arrested on the charge of poisoning her fourth husband. She admits having likewise poisoned the three former husbands and to have murdered in the same way hundreds of women during the last two years. Woman indeed!

MR. G. A. STACK of the Bengal Educational Department will edit the *Calcutta Review, vice* the late Dr. M'cCann.

THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE Examinations commenced on the 3rd of June. Inspite of the lowering of the maximum age five natives of India competed in the Examination.

WE ARE GLAD to learn that the Brahmin population of Poona are collecting Rs. 10,000 to supplement the noble gift of Sir W. Wedderburn in furtherance of female education in the Deccan. We hope the example of Poona will be followed by other towns of the South. A respectable Khajah Merchant Mr. Jairzobhoy Pirbhoy has followed suit and paid Rs. 15,000 to D. P. I. Bombay for the education of Khoja girls.

MADRAS PROPOSES to submit her memorial against the exodus to the Hills to the House of Commons through Mr. Gorst M. P.

W UNDERSTAND that the Government of Bengal has sanctioned the proposal of the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, to grant a scholarship of Rs. 20 a month to Mrs. Kadamvini Ganguly B. A. tenable for 5 years at the Calcutta Medical College with retrospective effect from 15th June 1883.

THE CLOSE PROXIMITY of the Russian territory to Afghanistan and the Russian intrigues with the Turkomans have led the Amir to give an increment to his army, but the want of funds has brought his project to a stand still.

WE ARE sorry to see in the correspondence columns of the *Indian Mirror*, an account of an assault made upon the person of one Kaminikumar Dass a student of the Dacca Medical School by Mr. Marriot, the Joint-Magistrate of the place. The poor boy was on duty at the Mitford Hospital on the night of the 28th June last, where at 10 P. M. the Joint-Magistrate turned up to take down a dying declaration. Instead of calling on the House Surgeon as is the usual course in such cases, the Joint went to the ward where the patient was lying and began to interrogate the student in charge in English; but the poor boy did not understand the language and thought that the Shahib was asking him to call in the House Surgeon and so he rushed out of the room to send him information. On his reappearance in the room, he was again spoken to by the Joint-Magistrate in English, and the boy again failed to give him a reply. His silence provoked the Magistrate, and he fell to using violence towards the helpless boy. The boy has lodged a complaint to the Magistrate against Mr. Marriot and the Magistrate having satisfied himself with the truth of the complaint by holding a preliminary enquiry, has ordered summons to issue against the accused to answer to the charge. We understand that an apology has been tendered.

WE ARE glad to learn that Sir T. Brassey has contributed £9000 and Mr. Baring £100 to the funds of the Indian Institute of Professor Monier Williams.

A MUSSORIE Correspondent writes:—The Duke and Dutches of Connaught continue to remain very retired; they may be seen playing lawn-tennis in the private ground attached to their abode, but they never miss going to church once every Sunday.

THE CELEBRATED Russian General Tchernaieff, arrived at Singapore from Europe on the 10th ultimo preliminary to a tour of inspection to Sanghai, Vladivostoch, and Siberia. It was this officer who opened the negociation with Merv for its cession to Russia. In 1882 he was Governor of Taskend. Our Straits contemporary describes him as "Russian of the Russians," blonde, big and blue eyed. He wears his *national* dress and is a thorough Russophil. He speaks French and German besides his mother tongue, but not English; and in respect of his ignorance of English he very wittily said that he loved the English so very much that he would not even murder a word in their language.

WEDNESDAY, 9TH JULY.

IT IS GOING the round of the papers that some of the officers of the Russian Navy have submitted to their Minister, Admiral Shestakoff a new plan for a polar expedition. Starting with the conviction that it is impossible to reach the North Pole by sea on account of the numerous islands in that region, they have proposed an inland expedition in sledges from the new Siberian Islands which are said to be 900 nautical miles distant from the goal. This space will be covered by sledge parties who will make depôts of provisions in the newly discovered islands and thus slowly though surely the farthest end of mother earth will be reached by the party and the return journey of the expedition will also be secured.

THE UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION of Belgium will be opened on May 2,1885. To secure the co-operation of the known world the Belgian Government has officially invited all foreign Governments to take part in it. Sympathetic promises of support have been received from all the European States. The States of America, the east, the colonies in general and even Africa will be represented at the Exhibition. In England a committee have already been formed under the presidency of the Marquis of Hamilton.

COLONEL SIR. O. ST. JOHN officiating resident at Hydrabad will shortly make over the charge of the office to the regular incumbent Mr. Cordery. Sir Oliver will then proceed to Simla after which he will rejoin his own appointment in Cashmere.

Mr. L. Pugh M. P. who had displeased his constituency by reason of his frequent and prolonged absence from England has written to the Secretary of the Cardiganshire Liberal Association that in view of their representations he has decided to vacate his seat but would defer doing so till the end of the present session.

THE VALUE of gold imported to India during the first two months of the current financial year was Rs 1,15,00,542 and of that exported Rs 5,825; the value of silver imported being Rs 1,85,38,083 and of that exported being Rs 4,509,455 leaving a balance of both the metals in favour of imports to the extent of Rs 2,562,345.

WE CONGRATULATE the *Indian Echo* in its enlarged size. The editorship has we are glad to learn passed into the hands of Babu Asutos Biswas M. A. B. L. sometime sub-editor of the *Bengali*. We wish our contemporary every success.

A CORRESPONDNT of the *Indian Mirror* contradicts the Maharaja of Burdwan has subscribed 10,000 Rs in aid of the Darjeeling Town Hall.

THE SYNDICATE of the Bombay University has selected "the influence of western thought and civilization on the Indian mind" as the subject for the Hormusjee Cursetjee Dadi Prize Essay. The selection appears to us to be a very judicious one.

FREQUENT complaints reach us about the rough manner in which Tramway drivers use poor foot passengers. A case occurred only the other day when Syud Amir Housein fined a driver for assaulting foot passengers with his whip and another, in which the driver struck a native lad, for causing him to fall in front of the fore wheels of the car which cut him severely under the armpit The lad lies in the Mayo Hospital in a very precarious state. It is high time that the tramway authorities should put down the vagaries of their *employes* with a high hand.

THE SESSIONS JUDGE of Lahore has rejected the appeal of the engine driver and Station-master in the late Khana railway accident case against the sentences passed on them by the Judicial Assistant Commissioner.

SAYS THE ENGLISHMAN "A Bombay contemporary has taken advantage of the present agitation about the annual exodus of the Viceroy and so many Government officers to Simla, to suggest that Puna would be the most fitting place as a residence for the Supreme Government." There is no originality in this. The idea was broached by Sir George Campbell some twenty years ago, in a ponderous pamphlet of a hundred pages or so. As to its value we should like much to know, how often is the Bombay Government whistled away from Ganesa Khind by the Syrens of Mahabalesvar, and what proof have we that the charms of the said Syrens will be powerless over the tender susceptibilities of the seignors of the Supreme Government ?

THURSDAY, 10TH JULY.

IN THE House of Commons Lord Hartington replying to a question as to what measures the British Government were adopting for protection of Upper Egypt, said, that the British force stationed in Egypt together with the Egyptian troops were sufficient to defend Upper Egypt.

WE ARE glad to learn that arrangements have been completed to open an F. A. class in connection with the Dacca Jagannath School. Private enterprise in matters educational cannot be too highly commended.

"THE Collector of Patna" says the *Indian Chronicle* of Bankipore, "has framed a set of questions in connection with the Tenancy Bill and forwarded them to the zemindars to obtain answers from them." Better late than never.

A NEWS letter from Kandahar says :—An unfortunate Kandahari had a likeness of the "pretender" Ayub Khan but had not taken sufficient care to hide this dangerous relic. He was charged with high treason in a mild form, and condemned to have his face blackened and in a disgraceful attitude to be led through the Bazar.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR, the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, is expected at Heidelberg. He will live with the well-known historian, Professor Ihne, who has been ordered to engage him a German valet. The Prince will occupy himself chiefly with the study of German, and will, perhaps, also attend some of the University lectures till the end of the present summer term. The English colony at Heidelberg is naturally greatly pleased at the news.

THE DEATH of Babu Lokenath Moitra a Homœopathic Doctor of Bhowanipore of some celebrity is announced.

Two trucks used to be sufficient for conveying the English Mail to and from Brindisi ; but lately the number of trucks required was as many as five. The number of over-land English Mail bags is constantly on the increase.

MR. Bradlaugh is a Free-mason ; but he is shortly to be expelled from the society in consequence of his atheistic principles. He cannot believe in the "Supreme Architect of the Universe." As if expulsion from Parliament and having to pay damages for wrongfully sitting in it are not enough to vex the poor man's soul (" if there be a soul ")

THE following is the official sumary of the reports on the weather and crops in Bengal for the week ending July :—

The rains appear to have set in throughout the province. The rainfall was heavy in Kulna, Bogra, Darjiling and Dakka. More rain is required in some places for transplanting *amun* paddy. Agricultural operations going on vigorously. Transplanting of *amun* commenced in many places. Cotton is being gathered in a few districts and a fair outturn expected. Early paddy progressing well. Prices of food-grains almost stationary. Public health good, though cholera and small-pox still linger in some places."

WE regret to hear that Khwaja Hafizulla eldest son of Nawab Ashanulla Khan Bahadur of Dacca died suddenly on the 8th July from Pneumonia.

NEARLY two lacs of people are said to have attended the *Ulta Rath Jatra* festival at Mahesh.

RAJAH HARISH CHUNDER CHOWDHURY of Mymensinghas made a donation of Rs 5000 towards the construction of a feeder road from the River Brahmaputra to the Kamakhaya temple in the District of Kamrup in Assam. The Raja's public spirit and liberality are very commendable.

THE Nawdi Torture case, a notice of which appeared in our last issue, came on for hearing at Monghyr on the 27th, 28th, 30th June and 1st July 1884. The Assessors returned a verdict of "not guilty" against all the accused, but the learned Judge, differing, delivered judgment to the following effect :—The Jemadar to 3 years, the 3 constables to 8 months' each, and the two chowkeydars to 3 months' each, rigorous imprisonment. The case gives abundant proofs of the daily malpractices which the Police exercises in the Mafussil.

THE people of Great Britain and Ireland spend more money for drink than for the necessaries of life. It has been computed that the English spend annually about twice as much for liquor as for bread, or for rent of houses and farms, and three times as much as they do for woolen goods. The expenditure on drink, £120,000,000, is more than it is on milk, cheese, butter, coffee, cocoa, tea and sugar put together The cost for drink is 9 times more than it is on cotton goods, 12 times more than on education, and 136 times more than on foreign Christian Missions ! ! !

AND yet how amusingly will fastidious English critics turn up their noses at young Bengal running on to ruin head foremost by reason of wholesale indulgence in liquor. We should like to see the Missionary Temperance movement take a firmer root at home before they sally forth to improve the morals of people abroad. The adage "physician heal thyself" had never a truer application.

FRIDAY, 11TH JULY.

A CORRESPONDENT from Rungpore tells us that he has extracted molasses from mangoes, jacks and plantains to the extent of ¼ tola from each mangoe and an aril of the Jack fruit and 2 tolas from a plantain. He says his *goor* is of a superior quality to the goor commonly used.

THE ENGLISHMAN has received the following telegram from Simla regarding the introduction of the *Octroi* duties in Calcutta :

The proposal to introdnce octroi duties in Calcutta has not come before the Government officially, but the view of the Financial Department on the question seems to be that, if the Calcutta Municipality choose to impose the tax, there will be no interference with their action on the part of Government, except in so far that the Municipality will be required to observe the principle which government has laid down from time to time to regulate the levy of these duties. These principles are that the tax should be moderate, and restricted to articles actually consumed in the town, and not imposed upon articles of general commerce, or suffered to interfere with the natural course of transit or trade. It is recognized, however, that the imposition of an octroi is likely to throw the chief burden of local taxation upon the poorer classes of the Calcutta community.

THE English papers announce the death of Dr. Henry Goodeve, once a well known Surgeon on the Bengal establishment, and a Professor of Anatomy of the Calcutta University.

THE successful opening of a Cable tramway on Ludgate Hill opens up a new chapter in the history of tramways. Although such tramways are not new to our friends on the other side of the ocean still this is the first of its kind in Europe. America knew it since 1873, the first Cable tramway being laid in San Francisco in that year, since then the total length of such lines has risen up to 50 miles of which 20¼ miles are in Chicago and the remainder being confined to San Francisco and Dunedin.

WE take the following from the English papers :

Mr. J. McCarthy asked the Under-Secretary of State for India whether his attention has been called to the fact, that petitions to Parliament are being signed by vast numbers of natives, and circulated throughout every district in the Madras presidency, complaining of the recent protracted Governmental absenteeism, the cost and impolicy of the same, the district officials absenteeism, the lost touch of district officials with their ryots, and other allegations on the same subject; and whether the Secretary of State will anticipate the prayers of the petitioners by making immediate inquiries into these allegations. In reply, Mr. Cross said that the India Office had no information as to the petitions referred to. But he gathered from the newspapers that the subject of the residence of the various Governments in the Hills during the hot-weather months had recently been attracting a good deal of attention in India. The Secretary of State had no present intention of taking any action in the matter.

MR. CROSTHWAITE, the late Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, has read a wholesome lecture to the Magistrates in his report reviewing the Police administration of the province. Under the Police Act the District Magistrate is virtually vested with the control over the Police in his district, but this power is generally exercised by the District Superintendent and the Magistrates freely criticise their acts in their annual reports. Mr. Crosthwaite points out that " the Magistrate who condemns the Police administration of his district writes his own condemnation with his own hands, unless he is prepared to show that he was prompt to discover and remedy the evils of which he complains. He might just as well narrate the maladministration of one of his revenue subdivisions and set forth the deficiencies of the assistant in charge." We commend the above to our District Magistrates and hope they will profit by this good and well-meant advice given to them by an experienced officer like Mr. Crosthwaite.

WE are indebted to the Bengal Secretariat for the information regarding Quarantine at Aden :

Letter from the Political Resident, Aden, No. 212—1355 dated 21st June 1884. "With reference to my letter No. 169—1030, dated 26th ultimo, I have the honour to report the following telegram received from Her Majesty's Consul General, Cairo, dated 19th instant.—

'Cairo, 19th June, 12-30 P. M. Quarantine Board decided to-day to admit to free partique arrivals from Burmah, from, Chittagong to Rangoon, inclusive, having left after 7th May sent to London, India, and Aden,

"2. In accordance with the above, the following notification has been issued by the Political Resident at Aden —

'Vessels arriving from ports within the limits mentioned will be granted free partique at Aden should they have left after the 7th May 1884.

SATURDAY, 12TH JULY.

DR. D. F. DYMOTTT in delivering the annual address to the students at the Madras Medical College advised young men about to marry to take especial care not to marry in a family where there were physical and moral frailties in any member however remote from the living female representative. A Spinister very funnily wrote in reply to a local paper which will well repay perusal and which we reproduce below :

I would advice all my young lady friends to be extremely suspicious of Dr. Dymott whenever he alludes, however indirectly, to their grandmothers, aunts or other diseased or deceased ancestors, But suppose we spinsters cross-questioned Dr. Dymott, and other eligible bachelors, about their genealogical tree. what would they say if we objected to them because their great-grandfathers, or grandunoles had gout, a wooden leg, St. Vitus's dance, or any other hereditary disease that *Mankind* is heir to?

THE INDIAN AGRICULTURIST referring to some remarks in an American paper on the subject of the Indian wheat trade says:

There may be, and probably are, as asserted by those who take a sanguine view of India's position as a food-supplier, millions of acres yet to be brought under the plough; and this land—which is probably, from its being the last to be cultivated, inferior to the soils first broken up—may be devoted to the production of inferior food grains, whilst older cultivated areas are devoted to growing wheat or other staples for export. But it deserves careful consideration whether India does really offer an unlimited field for the extention of the export trade, compared with the practically unlimited areas of virgin soil in North-West America. There are Indian districts, we know, yet untapped by railway communications, where the price of wheat is so low that in plentiful years it hardly pays the ryot to reap it. But there must be very soon a limit to expansion in this direction; and the only hope of increasing the export will lie in a corresponding increasing of *production*. Is there any evidence that as yet the productive powers of the soil in India are being increased? Is it not rather a matter of constant complaint that they are decreasing, in spite of Agricultural Departments spread broadcast over the land.

IT must have struck many that socialisation is slowly gaining ground everywhere, its advocates are preaching wholesale confiscation and redistribution of landed property. The organ of the Social Democracy "Justice" has recently published a programme of the Democratic Federation which advocates such confiscation under the garb of benefit to the Democracy. This of course would be too much of a good thing !

THE SIMLA correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* learns on good authority that Lord Kimberley will be Lord Ripon's successor in India. As the Secretary of State for India, he has been little less of a failure.

ACCORDING to the *Athænium* some of the ladies who have had Universities education are bestirring themselves in forming an Association for the propagation of higher education in schools and families. They have already started classes in and near London for this purpose. The Association bears the name of "University Association of women Teachers." When shall India see such a day !

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THE M. A. O. COLLEGE at Allygur is going to have a special class for training students wishing to finish their education in England especially those who desire to go up for the open competitive Civil Service Examination. The proposal is a very good one. Why don't our Hindu compatriots move in the same direction ?

WE see in the *Bombay Gazette* that the Chairman of the Bombay Municipality had to suspend business for want of a quorum as was the case with the Calcutta Municipality the other day. The secret of such unsuccessful meetings is that when the members are sought to be authoritatively suborned by the heads of Municipalities or when an unpleasant topic is on the *tapis* they silently leave the meeting. The Chairman of every Municipality ought to take care to make the half-hour pleasant to the members by avoiding all display of temper.

HIS HONOUR the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal will, we understand, nominate Mr. C. E. Buckland to sit on the Committee to be appointed to decide the question of improved means of taxation in Calcutta.

THE Government of the N. W. Provinces and Oudh will spend 47 lack of rupees on its railways for the official year 1884-85, including the Imperial grant of 10 lacs. This pretty large amount is to be spent in the construction of 8 lines of railroads within the Provinces. We wish the Government of Bengal had projected some new lines and completed the ones taken in hand.

A CORRESPONDENT from Maimensing writes to say that the zemindar of Amberia has set up a model farm to grow foreign crops in it. For the better cultivation of the land he has introduced foreign implements of husbandry. We wish our other zemindars would follow the laudable example set by this enterprising gentleman.

THE Bradlaugh case has been decided. The special jury found that Mr. Bradlaugh had not taken the requisite oath. He was re-elected by his constituents after his first expulsion from the house. We are afraid,now that the case has been decided against him, a repetition of the same disagreeable scenes will follow in the Lower House. But his persistent efforts may bring about a change for the better in the Law.

DURING the week ending 5th July there were 161 deaths in Calcutta of which 14 were from cholera, 5 from small pox, 49 from fever, 12 from bowel complaints and 76 from all other causes.

WE BEG to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and journals:— 1. Administration Report of the Railways in India for 1883-84 Part I. 2. Journal of the Asiatic Society Vol. LIII. 3. A note on Keshubchunder Sen by a Hindu. 4. Trade and Navigation Accounts for April and May 1884. 5. Brahmoism by Ram Chundra Bose. 6. Adarsa Nari Part I by Nakur Chunder Biswas. 7. List of Railways existing and guaranteed and under construction. 8. The Students' Sanskrit and English Dictionary. 9. Gup and Gossip, July 9, 1884.

A VERNACULAR contemporary—the *Sanjibani*—has a paragraph about the new popular magazine, the *Prachara*, which we noticed last week. We are afraid our contemporary is misinformed as to the extent of Babu Bankimchandra Chatterjea's connection with it, and has led the public to form expectations which are not likely to be realised. Babu Bankimchunder will, we readily believe, lend a helping hand to any literary enterprise that may promise to be of use to the country ; more than this it would not be true to say, and idle to expect. We understand that the *Prachara* and the *Naba Jivana* will receive his fostering care and attention in an equal degree.

WE take from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, July 7.—In a debate this evening in the House of Lords in the second reading of the new Reform Bill, Earl Cairns moved an amendment proposing that there should be no extension of the franchise without redistribution of seats.

10.—Mr. Gladstone has called a meeting of the Liberal members to-day, and will announce to them the decision he has arrived at with regard to the Reform Bill, which was rejected by the House of Lords on the 8th instant. It is believed that the Bill will be re-introduced in an autumn session of Parliament.

10—At the Liberal meeting called by Mr. Gladstone to-day, it was decided to re-introduce the Franchise Bill in an Autumn session, which will commence in October. The London Municipal Bill, the Sunday Closing Bill for Ireland and some other minor Bills, will be dropped.

11.—Mr Gladstone, in reply to a question in the House of Commons last evening, said that the autumn session will be exclusively devoted to the Franchise Bill. Liberal Committees throughout the country are engaged in organising an agitation in favour of the reform. The Financial experts who are occupied in discussing the Egyptian finances will finish their labours next week, whereupon the Conference will reassemble. Paris July 10 The cholera at Marsellies is increasing,and fifty-three deaths from that cause occurred there to-day. In Toulon the epidemic is abating, the number of deaths to-day being twelve.

Paris, July 5.—Li-fong-pao, the newly appointed Chinese Ambassador, has had an interview with M. Ferry, and disclaimed any intentions of hostility on the part of China towards France.

7.—M. Ferry, in the Chamber of Deputies to-day, described the Langson affair as a regular ambush, and said that the French Government had demanded an indemnity for the violation of the treaty. The papers here to-day publish the amount of the indemnity at ten millions sterling, and also state that the French will occupy Foochow as a guarantee for its payment.

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JULY 14, 1884.

PRISON DISCIPLINE IN BENGAL.

THE last *Calcutta Gazette* contains the Government Resolution on the Report on the Administration of the Jail Department for the year 1883. Official Reports must, as a rule of their existence, be rose-colored. No departmental administration can justify its existence unless it can show after the expiration of each year that it has done something to achieve the purposes for which it was established. The present Resolutions and the Report on which it is based are therefore no exceptions to the rule. But there is something very peculiar about them. They are not only no exceptions to the rule, but are also remarkable as illustrations of its powers of expansion. They are not only rose-colored, but of the brightest tints of the rainbow. It would be unjustifiable to connect the name of the Lieutenant-Governor with it. These resolutions, it is well known to all are not the productions of the Lieutenant-Governor or even of his chief Secretaries but of some young assistant in the Secretariat, flourishing on hundred rupees a month, approved and endorsed by a young Under-Secretary. Such a Resolution, therefore, is rarely any thing more than a precis of the departmental report and in the present instance we shall be ungrateful if in our review of the Jail Administration we do not acknowledge our debt of endless gratitude to the head of the department, that remarkable man, Mr. E. V. Westmacott.

Mr. Westmacott is a man of genius. Nothing can be more brilliant than his performance. In the opening paragraph of the Resolution which of course is based on the Report, there are enumerated within the compass of three sentences all and every thing that can be reckoned great and glorious in Jail Administration. The death rate has fallen in all classes of prisoners. There is a continued decrease in the daily average of the jail population. There has been a general improvement in the discipline, and, wonder of wonders, there has been at the same time a diminution in the number of corporal punishment. There has been an increase of sentences of simple solitary confinement. Our readers will ask in wonder and surprise whether it is a matter of congratulation that there has been an *increase* in sentences of solitary imprisonment. For solitary imprisonment is one of the most terrible punishments which a human being can undergo. Yes, reader, it is a matter of congratulation. The explanation lies in the word *simple*. It is explained in the Resolution, impliedly of course, that simple solitary confinement has gained an increase at the expense of another form of solitary confinement, namely solitary confinement accompanied by *reduced diet*. Mr. Westmacott's Report thus innocently suggests the existence within the prisonwalls of Bengal of a form of punishment as excruciating as, and far more scientific in its character than, the boot or the screw or any other form of torture known to bygone ages. Simple solitary confinement itself is as high a strain as human nerves can ordinarily bear. Add to it reduced diet, which means starvation without murder, and you have all the conditions requisite which produce madness. Hindu philosophers insist upon this condition of existence as one which alone brings about that state which is a prelude to the final emancipation from the ills of life. Romancers depict it as the condition which leads to that aberration of the intellect which produces a prophet or a maniac. Sensational newspaper articles of the present day describe it as a practice resorted to by diabolical officials in charge of lunatic asylums for the purpose of inducing madness in those who are not mad but who it is desired should be found such. And this savage form of torture, as savage in its object as scientific in its operation, is an ordinary form of punishment as Mr. Westmacott confesses, in the prisons of Bengal.

We have by no means exhausted the happy list of blessings which this one year's administration has brought upon the fortunate inhabitants of our Bengal Jails. "In its financial aspect," proceeds the Resolution "notwithstanding a rise in the average cost of dieting prisoners, the returns show a diminished total expenditure, even including the outlay on new buildings by the Public Works Department, a decrease in the profits derived from jail manufacture, and an increase in the charge for establishments." So remarkable a decrease in the cost of dieting prisoners under such unfavorable circumstances *and notwithstanding a rise in the average cost of diet* is wonderful indeed. Mr. Westmacott will excuse us if we venture to think that there is only one explanation possible for such a result *that prisoners have been starved*!

The cruelty of prison discipline in Bengal is a matter which has not escaped the attention either of the general public or of the public press. Much has often been said and written about it, and what is more to the purpose it has attracted the attention of Lord Ripon's Government, so generally distinguished by its humanity. In reviewing the Administration Report of the Bengal Jails the Government of India remarked as follows :—

"The number of jail offences again showed an increase during the year under report. It is unsatisfactory to observe that these figures show no signs of diminution. The percentage of breaches of jail discipline to the total number of male convicts as gauged by the statistics given in the annual reports has been excessively high during the last four years, and the proportion is far higher than in any other province. The high ratios of the years from 1879 to 1882 are ascribed to the more careful registration of offences and to improved supervision on the part of jail officers. The Government of India are willing to accept this explanation as accounting in part for these generally high rates. At the same time the Governor-General in Council is constrained to observe that the improved system of registration on which the Inspector-General relies in explanation of the figures has been in force now for some years. It is difficult to believe that as compared with former years, the system has been so much more thoroughly worked up of late as to account completely for this general deterioration in the conduct of the prisoners. I am to suggest that possibly the infliction in a few cases of more exemplary punishments than are ordinarily imposed might do something to reduce the number of petty offences. I am also to suggest that in view of the fact that most of these offences are in connection with work, some enquiry should be made as to how the tasks imposed in Bengal compare with those in other provinces. There is undoubtedly some radical difference of system either in the manner of dealing with jail offences or in the character of the task work.

Now let us see what the Bengal Government has to say in reply to this. The Bengal Government says that it left the matter in the hands of the Inspector General desiring him to place himself in communication with Inspector Generals of other provinces. The worthy Inspector General did so and came to the pleasant conclusion that the Inspector-Generals of other provinces did not know their own business, a conclusion no doubt very agreeable to the Inspector General of Bengal personally ; but still one which the public may not be very eager to accept. The large number of offences shown in the jails of these provinces as compared with

others, is due it is said only to the fact that "all offences, however trivial, which may be brought to notice, are carefully and precisely recorded in Bengal;"—a perfection of red-tapeism to which other provinces, we fancy, have not as yet attained. "We in Bengal" continues the Inspector General "consider an insignificant number of offences recorded as a direct indication of failure on the part of subordinate officers to measure tasks, examine the quality of the work, and notice offences against jail descipline. In most of the provinces it would seem as if a small number of offences is supposed to indicate good management." A small number of offences indicate good management! Assuredly not. The only evidence of good management is we suppose much disorder and a large number of offences. On the same principle we shall be prepared to congratulate the Government of Bengal on its good management of the country when we see a large number of murders and robberies diversify the still life of its people and wandering gangs of marauders devastate the land.

We do not wish to misrepresent the Inspector General. We fully understand that he means not that the large number of offences is in itself an indication of good management, but that the recording of a large number of offences shows that all offences have been carefully recorded. But may we ask, why is a heavy record of offences a matter of congratulation at all? A heavy record of offences indicates, we presume, the actual commission of a large number of offences. Now, may we ask, why the jail department should find so much satisfaction in the fact that a large number of offences were committed and furnished matter for a heavy record? Cannot the energies of the department be turned from a careful record of offences to the somewhat more important business of repressing and preventing them? Does it not strike the Inspector General that the authoritative laying down, as has been laid down, of the maxim that an insignificant number of offences recorded is a direct indication of failure on the part of subordinate officials" to do their duty, itself tends to the manufacture of offences? We are afraid that many an unoffending fellow has had to bear the lash for things done in perfect innocence, in order that the subordinate officials might contribute to the delight of the Inspector General by swelling the number of offences "carefully and precisely recorded."

We must do Mr. Westmacott the justice to say that it is his predecessor in office, Dr. Lethbridge and not he, who has given expression to these views. But Mr. Westmacott evidently adopts those views and lays them before the Government without a word of comment. We are sorry to see those views accepted by the Bengal Government. We invite His Honor the Lieutenant Governor's personal attention to these matters. What we condemn in Mr. Westmacott is his constant endeavour to place every thing in the best light. Even the very worst things are with him matters of congratulation. Whatever good happens to the country, it is in part at least due according to him, to jail administration. If there is less crime in the country now than there was before, it is because of the jails, of the deterrent effect of jail discipline. If on the other hand, there is an undeniable blot in jail administration some body outside the jail department must bear the blame. If there is heavy mortality within jails it is the wicked convicts who die, that are in fault. They come in such bad health to the jails that they die as a matter of course—what can the poor Inspector General do? It is very generous in him to hold forth on their perverseness. We beg to remind the criminal population of the country that it is very unfair to the Inspector General of Jails that they should enter these happy premises when they are not in exceptional good health.

Seriously speaking, the Jail Administration of the province is very unsatisfactory, and prompt steps should therefore be taken to remedy this state of affairs.

THE EXODUS TO THE HILLS.

THE people of the so-called benighted Presidency have taken the initiative in concerting measures for protesting against the annual exodus of the local Governments to the hills. The question has been taken up not a day too soon. It is high time that there should be a public expression of opinion against the present annual migration to the hills of the Viceroy, Governors, Lieutenant Governors, Chief Commissioners, and heads of offices, accompanied by the majority of their subordinates. The whole Press of India, Anglo-Indian and Native, is for once unanimous in condemning their annual migrations, as involving a frivolous and unnecessary waste of public money and a neglect of the public interests. Mr. Gorst has done good service to India by moving in the House of Commons for a return giving information as to the cost of these annual migrations to the hills, and the Under-Secretary of State has promised to furnish the desired information. The present time is, therefore, most opportune for our countrymen to agitate the matter in a fair and temperate spirit, and point out the evils which result from a system under which the Supreme and Local Governments are withdrawn for nine months of the year from the wholesome influence of public opinion. This has long been recognised as a great evil. The present system of annual migrations to the hills dates from the time of Lord Lawrence's Viceroyalty. Lord William Bentinck, we believe, was the first Governor-General who visited Simla; but Lord Auckland was the first who made any prolonged stay. It was at Simla that the first Affghan War, which has ever since made an honest alliance with the Afghans impossible, was planned and carried out. Some of Lord Auckland's successors occasionally visited Simla, but they never thought of making it their hot weather capital. On the death of Lord Elgin towards the latter end of 1863, Lord Lawrence accepted the Viceroyalty on the condition that he should be permitted to reside at Simla during the summer months. Lord Lawrence was an old man and there were good reasons for making an exception in his case. But since then the annual exodus to the hills became an established practice. We donot know whether Lord Lawrence made it a condition that he should be accompanied to Simla by the members of the Executive Council and the Secretaries to the Government of India. But as a matter of fact he took his colleagues and the Indian Secretariats up to Simla every hot season during his reign. Since then the annual exodus to the hills has become an established institution of the land. Lord Lawrence's successor, Lord Mayo, lengthened the stay of the Supreme Government at its summer residence and increased the number of officials accompanying it. Lord Northbrook was not much in favour of these annual migrations to the hills. His Lordship wished to put down the practice, but the influence of his surroundings was too much for him. Being a good-natured man, he yielded to the pressure that was brought to bear upon him. In Lord Lytton's time Simla-going received a considerable impetus. In order to carry out his spirited frontier policy the late Viceroy found it more convenient to reside in the Punjab than in Bengal. The Supreme Government now spends barely three and a half months of the year in Calcutta. The Provincial Government as might be expected, have not been slow to follow this example. Each Local Government, not excepting the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, now removes annually for six or seven months to its own summer capital. It is accompanied by a host of clerks to whom this annual migration is a source of serious expense and inconvenience.

The financial aspect of the question of the annual exodus to the hills has never been fully discussed. The public has no idea of what the actual cost of the migrations comes to. We trust that the return for which Mr. Gorst has moved will give full information on the subject. We, however, think that on the most moderate calculation the annual migrations of the Supreme and Local Governments with all the etceteras put in cost the tax-payer over twenty lakhs of rupees. Now, this sum may seem a trifle to an Englishman; but it is no joke to the people of India one-fifth of whom, according to Dr. W. W. Hunter, the highest authority on Indian statistics, go through life in a state of chronic starvation. There are many urgent wants of the country which could be supplied by a judicious appropriation of this sum of ten lakhs of rupees. It is urged that an annual expenditure of twenty lakhs is not much when we remember that it saves our rulers the disadvantages and discomforts of living in the plains during the hot weather and rains. Now we must not forget that the salary of a European official in India is composed of two elements; one part of the pay which he receives remunerates him for the actual work which he does, and the other compensates him for leaving his country, and for various disadvantages and expenses to which he is subjected. He has to live in a tropical climate and to send his children to Europe to be educated. As the Native of India is subject to these disadvantages, the Government of Lord Lytton, with the sanction of the then Secretary of State, Lord Cranbrook, decided that a Native would really receive much higher remuneration than a European if he were paid the same salary. It is accordingly laid down that a Native of India would get two-thirds of the salary of a European for doing the same work. This decision plainly indicates that one-third of the remuneration which the European official in India draws, is allowed to him as a compensation for the disadvantages of living in a tropical climate. Now if he spends the cold season in the plains and the hot weather and rains in a hill station, he lives in a climate which is far superior to that of his own country. Indeed he lives in the finest and best climate in the world; and for this reason he is not fairly entitled to the compensation for residing in a tropical country, which represents one-third of his salary. If one-third of the salaries of all European officials who go up to the hills during the hot weather and rains were cut down these annual migrations would at once become a thing of the past. The Government, being trustees of the public revenue, are not justified in spending one shilling of this revenue unnecessarily, and consequently they are bound to disallow the compensation granted to European officials for living in a tropical climate when these officials spend the hot weather and rains in a hill sanitarium.

The other consequences produced by this system of exodus to the hills are far more important than the pecuniary saving involved in the matter. Indeed, the expenditure incurred for these annual migrations altogether fails to represent the indirect loss which is caused to the country by this transfer of the seat of Government to the hill-capital during the greater part of the year. As the Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* points out the waste of public time in the case of the Supreme Government is not less than a month yearly. As a fortnight is occupied both in going and returning it follows that one-twelfth of the working year is lost. In the case of the Local Governments the loss of time may not be so great; but still it is considerable. But the greatest evil is, that during the greater part of the year the Government is removed from healthy contact with independent opinion and shut up in a narrow circle of officialism. It cannot be denied that such public opinion and independent criticism as there are in India are to be found only in the Presidency towns, and, in a lesser degree. in the provincial capitals. It is no light evil that the Government should be out of the reach of the wholesome effect of these for over half the year. We earnestly hope the attention of Parliament will be directed to this question of the annual exodus to the hills. The Indian bureaucracy will never give up these pleasant migrations unless the British public through their representatives in the House of Commons should force it to do so.

MR. KEENE ON THE CENTRAL ASIAN QUESTION.

MR. H. G. KEENE, late of the North-West Civil Service, recently read an interesting paper on the North-Western Frontier of India before the East India Association. As he has for years made Indian history his special study, Mr. Keene's views on the advance of Russia towards

India possess a peculiar value. Mr. Keene does not discuss the propriety of Russian proceedings at Merv. Like a sensible and practical man, he accepts the Muscovite occupation of Merv as a *fait accompli*. He points out that on the North-West side of India there is almost an open lane through which hardy tribes from less productive regions have at various times been able to invade India and make settlements on her fields; and that in order to protect India from a renewal of those dangers which she formerly suffered, the British Government undertook the Afghan wars of 1838 and 1878. Mr. Keene does not discuss the policy of these wars. He takes it for granted that they were wise measures. He quotes with approval the following passage from Lord Lytton's vindication of his frontier policy:—"It is, we conceive, with a view to the prevention of those dangers that the British Government * * * has at all times attached peculiar importance to the exclusion of foreign influence from Afghan and Biluch territory guided by this * * * the invariable aim of its policy has been to secure the friendship, the confidence, and—in case of need—the co-operation of the sovereigns of Cabul and Khelat. But the measures which this policy carried out were baffled when the Russian boundary having advanced to within 400 miles of the British border, emissaries from that power were believed to be intriguing with Sheie Ali. In these circumstances the Government could no longer afford to contemplate with indifference the strategic defects of its North-Western frontier." Mr. Keene thinks that this statement of the case had a substantial base of truth; but he forgets that Lord Lytton's Afghan war was not originally undertaken with a view to remedy the defects of the North-Western frontier of India. The rectification of the frontier was an after-thought. The real object of Lord Lytton's frontier policy was to reduce the Amir of Cabul to the position of a protected Indian prince. If the late Viceroy had any knowledge of Afghanistan or its people, he would have known that there was not the slightest hope that the policy which had succeeded with the feudatory chiefs of India would succeed with the ruler of Afghanistan. If Mr. Keene thinks that the result of the second Afghan war would have been a rectification of the North-Western frontier of India had not the accession of a Liberal Government in the spring of 1880 led to a complete reversal of policy which had been pursued by their predecessors, he is equally mistaken. It must not be forgotten that before the Liberal Government took office, Kandahar had been already erected into a separate State and granted as an heriditary possession to Wali Shere Ali. The policy of the Conservative Government was at that time to separate Herat from Afghanistan and hand it over to Persia. It is fortunate for India that the Persian negotiations fell through. If Herat had been made over to Persia, it would now, like Sarrakhs, have been ceded to the Russians. The Herat scheme died a natural death, and even the Tories will now earnestly pray that it may never again be revived. The force of facts must have convinced them that the difference between Herat in Persian or Russian hand would be inappreciable. The Conservative programme, moreover, did not include a permanent occupation or annexation of Kandahar. Indeed, the withdrawal from Kandahar was in direct accordance with the repeated and solemn assurances which Sir Lepel Griffin had been instructed by the Government of Lord Lytton to give to the chiefs and people of Cabul. Indeed the English could not have remained at Kandahar without a gross breach of faith. In the teeth of these facts it is idle for Mr. Keene to attempt a defence of Lord Lytton's frontier policy.

We, however, fully agree with Mr. Keene in thinking that it is essential to the tranquillity of India that the principal land approaches to this country which lie on the western side of Afghanisthan should be held by a friendly custodian. So far there can be no room for any difference of opinion. The danger of neglecting to guard these approaches to India from Central Asia has always been evident. Mr. Keene reminds us that Hindus invaded the country from hat quarter in pre-historic times. Then came the Greeks, Bactrians, Scythians and afterwards the Mussulmans. Mr. Keene gives a brief but interesting historical sketch of the various Mahomedan invasions of India from the days of Mahomed of Ghuzni to those of Ahmad Shah Durani. He discusses at some length Lord Auckland's Afghan policy and condemns it severely. He observes:—"Instead of an independent but friendly Afghanistan which Lord Auckland's scheme procured an Affganistan as long as it was independent was most hostile. Calmer times then ensued. With the exception of one fugitive snatch at his Will-o'-wisp Peshawar (in 1849) the restored Dost Mahomed vindicated Barne's opinion of his remaining faithful to the British alliance to the day of his death. The fortune that has so long befriended Britain has now brought back the state of things that seemed interrupted for many years after the Dost's demise. Once more, after a variety of good and evil fortunes, we have a friendly and powerful ruler in Afghanistan, an efficient custodian for the outwork that protects our land work entrance." It is true that we have now a friendly ruler in Afghanistan; but then it should be carefully borne in mind that the policies of Lord Auckland and Lord Lytton have made an honest alliance with the Afghans impossible. Mr. Keene takes up an unassailable position when he says that so long as the English are regarded as friends and supporters who have no thirst for annexation the Afghans will serve them. This truth cannot be too deeply impressed upon those short-sighted men who advocate an occupation of Kandahar. The inevitable consequence of such a measure would be to make the Afghans the bitterest enemies of the English. Mr. Keene rightly urges the Government to make an open declaration of policy. "Such an avowal," he remarks, "is also due to the industrious, law abiding populations whom the British in India have volunteered to govern and protect. In order to keep those populations tranquil and contented, in order to develop to the utmost the industries and resources of India, we are bound to be *bold and frank*; to let the world know what we mean to do. The Government of India is doubtless prepared; let that Government say so openly. The present state of things is perplexing native Indian opinion with alarm and doubt. * * * Only let the people know that the protection is strong and ready in the hands of rulers who disinterestedly desire their welfare, and the North-West side of India will be as strong as any other." Mr. Keene advises the British Government to strictly follow the system of Akbar, "a ruler who made it his fundamental principle to rule justly, to conciliate innocent prejudices and harmless passions, to employ the best men in his service without distinction of creed or colour." If Mr. Keene's excellent advice were acted upon, there would be no such thing as discontent in India; and the Government may rest assured that the Russian menace will not unsettle the minds of the Indian subjects of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress.

THE PUNJAB JUDICIAL REORGANISATION SCHEME.

MR. BARKLEY has introduced into the Viceroy's Legislative Council a Bill to make the changes in the Punjab Courts Act, which are required for the purpose of giving effect to the judicial reorganisation scheme recently sanctioned by the Secretary of State on the recommendation of the Government of India. The important question of the reorganisation of the civil administration in the Punjab had for a long time been under the consideration of Government. But the scheme which has been finally sanctioned by the Secretary of State has many serious defects, which we yet hope will be rectified before the Bill for giving effect to it is passed into law. The arrangements, proposed on the executive side are simple. There are at present ten divisional Commissionerships in the Punjab. These will now be reduced to six divisions—namely, Delhi, Jullunder, Lahore, Rawal Pindi, Peshawar and Derajat districts. Sirsa will be abolished and divided between the districts of Ferozepore and Hissar. The six Commissioners will receive a

pay of Rs. 2,500 a month plus Rs. 250 fixed travelling allowance as at present; but we are told that a representation has been made to the Government of India with a view to their pay being raised to Rs. 2750, with Rs. 250 fixed travelling allowance. The pay of the Deputy Commissioners is equalized with that of Magistrate-Collectors in the regulation districts of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces. There is now one Financial Commissioner for the Punjab on Rs. 3000 a month. His pay is raised to Rs. 3,500 a month and the appointment of a second Financial Commissioner on Rs. 3,000 is sanctioned. The appointments of Settlement Commissioner and Additional Commissioner will be abolished. The Afghanistan Commissioners will be divided into three grades of Rs. 900, 700 and Rs. 500, respectively. There will be 77 extra Assistant Commissioners, 123 Tashildars and 21 Superintendents of Settlements. The Tahsildars have already been graded at an additional annual cost of nearly Rs. 75,000.

So much for the changes in the executive branch of the Administration. But in the judicial branch radical alterations are proposed to be made. The reader knows that when the Punjab administration was organised by Lord Dalhousie on the annexation of the province in 1849, all its officers were invested with civil and criminal jurisdiction in addition to their revenue and executive functions. We need not now discuss whether this arrangement was best suited to the administration of the newly acquired province or whether it worked satisfactorily. But in course of time some division of labour was found necessary. When the Board of Administration was dissolved the Chief Commissioner was relieved of all judicial functions by the appointment of a Judicial and Financial Commissioner. The Judicial Commissioner was subsequently replaced by the Chief Court. A few years afterwards, Deputy Commissioners, Tahsildars were relieved of a larger portion of judicial work by the appointment of a member of special officers known as Judicial Assistants and Munsif, upon whom the powers of a Deputy Commissioner and of a Tehsildar were respectively conferred. The Commissioner of Peshawar was also relieved of his judicial duties by the appointment of a Civil and Sessions Judge, and some other Commissioners were partially relieved of judicial work by the appointment of two additional Commissioners. These measures were good so far as they went but they did not go far enough. It has now been decided to take a further step in the direction of relieving from judicial duties officers employed in the revenue and general administration of the province. This decision will commend itself to the common sense of the thinking portion of the community. The Province will now be divided into seven judicial divisions consisting each of a number of districts. There will be a divisional court for each judicial division consisting ordinarily of two judges, each will take the place of the Commissioner's Court and of that of the Civil and Sessions Judge of Peshawar. The number of Judges sanctioned for these Divisional Courts, is 13. It is, therefore, proposed, in order to complete the seven Courts, to appoint the Commissioner of a division to be one of the Judges. The two Judges constituting the Divisional Court will dispose of certain work as a Bench. An Assistant or Subordinate Judge will be appointed to each district, except a few of the lightest districts, where the Deputy Commissioner will act as Assistant Judge in addition to his other duties. The Court of the Assistant Judge will take the place of the Court of the Deputy Commissioner. The new Divisional Court will be the District Court or Principal Court of Original Civil Jurisdiction within its division. The jurisdiction of the Judges of the Divisional Court and of the Assistant or Subordinate Judge in original civil suits will, like that of the Deputy Commissioners at present, be unlimited as respects the value or amount in litigation. The jurisdiction of Assistant and Extra Assistant Commissioner, with full powers, which extends at present to suits not exceeding Rs. 10,000 in value, will be reduced and will extend only to suits not exceeding Rs 5,000 in value. The jurisdiction of selected Munsif will be enlarged so as to extend to all original suits not exceeding Rs. 100 in amount.

The Local Government will be empowered to invest Assistant Judges and Munsif with certain Small Cause Court jurisdiction, and to fix from time to time the territorial limits within which the jurisdiction of the Judge, Assistant or Subordinate Judge, or other person exercising judicial powers, is to be exercised. The Divisional Court, subject to the general control of the Chief Court, will have control over all Civil Courts in the Civil Judicial Division. It is proposed to transfer certain classes of suits relating to land from the Civil to the Revenue Courts, as it is thought that these suits can be better disposed of by Revenue officers than by purely Judicial officers. In these cases, of course, Commissioner will still exercise appellate jurisdiction as they do in the North-Western Provinces.

We now come to the proposed reform of the appellate system, which is the most important part of the scheme. The reason why this present system of appeals is to be changed is, if we are to believe Mr. Barkley, that the number of appeals to the Chief Court is annually increasing, and has for several years been greatly in excess of what three Judges—the permanent strength of the Court—could dispose of. One should have thought that the obvious remedy for this state of things would have been an increase in the number of Judges in the Chief Court, but the Government has thought it advisable to reduce the number of appeals by giving greater finality to the decisions of courts subordinate to the Chief Court. The second appeal on a question of law or custom now allowed by the Civil Procedure Code in suits other than those of the Small Cause Court class, and the further appeal on the whole case when an appellate court has reversed or modified the decree of a court of original jurisdiction which is permitted by the Punjab Courts Act are both taken away. Suits of the Small Cause Court class, not above Rs. 500 in value, and any other classes of suits not above that value which the Chief Court, with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, may from time to time determine to put on the same footing, will be heard in first appeal by the Assistant or Subordinate Judge, whose order will be final. The first appeal in suits exceeding Rs. 5,000 in value will be to the Chief Court. The first appeal in other suits which are not of the Small Cause Court class and which have not been put by the chief Court on the same footing, will lie to a Divisional Court consisting ordinarily of two Judges. A Judge sitting alone will not have power to reverse anything but an interlocutory rule. But when two Judges cannot agree in an order reversing the decree of the original Court, a second appeal on fact as well as law will be to the Chief Courts *on a certificate granted by both Judges that the case is of sufficient importance to justify a further appeal.* No such certificate, it is provided, will be granted except when the judges have differed, or when some question of law or of general interest arises. Second appeals will thus be practically abolished, and the abolition of second appeals will take away a great part of the appellate work for disposal by the Chief Court.

We have thus briefly summarised the salient points of the Punjab Judical Reorganization scheme. It will be observed that the most important feature of the scheme is the separation of Judicial and Executive functions in the case of Commissioners and Civil and Sessions Judges, and of Assistant and Subordinate Judges and Deputy Commissioners. This is a move in the right direction, and so far we fully approve the scheme. But the arrangement under which it is proposed that in light districts the Deputy Commissioner will act as Assistant Judge in addition to his other duties is one which must be condemned. In no district, should a Deputy Commissioner be allowed to perform Civil Judicial functions. It is by no means necessary that the limits of Civil and Revenue districts should be made conterminous. There are many light districts in Bengal and North-West Provinces which are, in Civil Judicial matters included in another district. A Judgeship in such cases consists of two or more Revenue districts. The same course may be followed in the Punjab in regard to light districts. On the second place, it is worthy of note that both the Judges composing the Divisional Bench will be Europeans and members of the Covenanted Civil Service. It is against this feature of the Punjab Judicial reorganisation scheme that we feel it our duty to protest emphatically. If the Divisional Bench is to consist of two European Judges who are both Covenanted Civilians, it is a thousand times better that there should be no Appellate bench at all. An ideal Appellate bench in India should consist of a Civilian Judge, a Barrister Judge and a Native Judge. Such was the Scheme which Sir John Peter Grant proposed when he was Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. But if Sir John's proposal cannot be carried out in its entirety, a divisional appellate bench should consist of at least one European and one Native Judge. A bench consisting of two European Covenanted Civilian Judges cannot be expected to command the confidence of the suitors. Covenanted Civilians, it should be borne in mind, receive no judicial training, and they have not any peculiar aptitude for civil judicial work. If the Appellate Bench Judgeships are to be reserved exclusively for Covenanted Civilians we cannot approve the establishment of these benches. In Bengal the appellate bench scheme would be a boon simply because one of the Judges composing it will be an experienced and able Native gentleman who has received a regular training for the work. If the Government is not prepared to appoint such a qualified Native gentleman on the Divisional Appellate Bench, we must say it would be the height of unwisdom to establish those benches and thereby practically abolish second appeals. Again, the nine Assistant Judges will be all covenanted civilians. Are we to believe that the Punjab Judicial reorganisation scheme has been framed for the sole benefit of the Punjab Covenanted Civilians who have for sometime past been louldly complaining of slowness of promotion? The Government may adopt special measures for removing the block in the Punjab Civil Service; but we must strongly object to the curtailment of the right of appeal simply for the sake of the civilians who are dissatisfied because fat appointments do not fall to their lot with the rapidity desired by them. The efficiency of the entire system of administration of justice in the Punjab should not be impaired for the benefit of a few Covenanted Civilians. If the number of appeals to the Chief Court is annually increasing, the Court should be strengthened by the appointment of additional Judges. But reduce the number of appeals by constituting weak and inefficient appellate benches with a view to remove the block in the Covenanted Civil Service is a measure the injustice of which is too obvious to require anything more than bare mention.

THE BIHAR BRANCH OF THE BENGAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

WE have from time to time had occasion to notice in these columns Mr. Grierson's commendable researches into the literature and the philological peculiarities of the vernacular dialects of Bihar. Although we have not often been able to accept his novel and peculiar theories, we have always given him credit for the useful work he is doing. He has now formed a project for the establishment in Patna, as the Head-Quarters of the province of Bihar, of a Bihar Asiatic Society, affiliated to the Bengal Asiatic Society, and having for its objects similar researches. The proposed Society, we are told, will deal with everything that is produced by a native of Northern India, but more especially in the Province of Bihar. "The Society," says the *Prospectus*, "will deal with the Literature, Language, and Science of Bihar, with its Arts and Industries, its Religion and social customs, its law and Folk lore. Its Castes and Tribes will offer an ever varying and almost untried field for its exploration, as also its Geography, Bibliography, History and Antiquities. The Society, following the example of its illustrious parent, will publish papers of original research on all the above subjects, as also texts and original translations of works hitherto unpublished, in the Sanskrit, Bihari, Arabic and Persian languages." Nor is this all. The Bihar Asiatic Society will endeavour to found and keep up an extensive library, both of printed books and manuscripts. It is also proposed to found a Museum in connection with the Society, devoted primarily to the economic products of Bihar. "The Bihar Branch of the Bengal Asiatic Society," the *Prospectus* goes on to say, "will therefore have three purposes in view. It will encourage the mutual intercourse and the growth of friendly feelings between all classes of the community—between Hindus and Mahomedans, and between Europeans and Natives. It will form a powerful engine for collecting, storing, and distributing the knowledge of facts about every thing connected with the ancient history of Behar—with oriental literature, with religious traditions, with domestic and caste customs and the thousand and one questions connected with the every day life of Indian Society. The collection of Bhuddhistical remains, and researches into the past history of Budhism in Behar, will not be lost sight of. No such engine has hitherto existed and its want has been greatly felt by the rulers and by the ruled: One subject alone, politics, will be excluded from its domain." The carrying out of this grand scheme will of course, cost money. It is estimated that the Society will require an assured income of Rs. 500 per mensem or of Rs. 6000 per annum. The Society must therefore have a capital of Rs. 1,25,000 before it can be started successfully. Then, another half-a-lakh of rupees must be raised for erecting a suitable building for the Society to serve as a Museum, a Public Hall, and as a place of deposit for the valuable books, manuscripts, and antiquities which will be collected. The Prospectus is signed by Mr. F. M. Halliday, Commissioner of Patna, Mr. C. T. Metcalfe, until recently Additional Commissioner, Mr. W. Kemble, Opium Agent, Bihar, Mr. G. A. Grierson, nominally Joint-Magistrate, but working on his Dictionaries and Grammars, Mr. C. H. Vowell, Magistrate-Collector, Mr. A. Ewbank, Principal of the local College and Mr. J. V. Pope, Inspector of Schools, Bihar circle.

The objects of the proposed Bihar Branch of the Bengal Asiatic Society as set forth in the Prospectus are commendable and ought to have the warm support of all sincere well-wishers of the country. But the promoters of the movement are managing the thing in a way which all right-minded persons must condemn. A meeting was lately held at Mr. Halliday's house, at which the Prospectus mentioned above was adopted, and the necessity of establishing a Bihar Branch of the Bengal Asiatic Society in the capital of the Province was recognised. Now, the first thing that strikes us in connection with this meeting, is that the European officials of Patna who are the promoters of the movement, excluded the Bengalees as a class. Not a single Bengalee gentleman, if we are correctly informed, was asked to attend the meeting at Mr. Halliday's house. Many Bengalee gentlemen hold high positions among the Native Community of Patna, and some of them have by their public spirit, done a good deal to promote the social, intellectual and moral advancement of the people of Bihar. But strange to say, these gentlemen were excluded from a meeting which, as far as it can be gathered from the proceedings, was a public one. The two Personal Assistants to the Commissioner who are both Bengalees were not asked to attend. There are three Subordinate Judges in Patna. The Bihari Mahomedan Subordinate Judge was invited; but the two Bengalee Subordinate Judges were not. All the Municipal Commissioners of Patna excepting the Bengalee ones were asked to attend the meeting. Indeed all classes of the Native Community excepting the Bengalees were invited to join. There can be no doubt that the exclusion of the Bengalees from the meeting was intentional. It could not, in view of the facts mentioned above, have been accidental. It may be said, that Bengalees, as mere birds of passage in Bihar, have no right to be invited to join such a movement; but we must not forget that many Bengalees have become domiciled in Bihar and made it the province of their adoption. They have no intention whatever of returning to their homes in Bengal. As a matter of fact, they are as much inhabitants of Behar as the Biharis themselves. Besides, the

sauce which agreed so nicely with the English gander could not possibly have disagreed with the Bengali goose. What is wanted is zeal for the cause of knowledge and not a strict interpretation of the law of domicile, and, such being the case, the exclusion of the Bengalees as a class from the meeting in Mr. Halliday's house cannot be justified. One of the objects of the Bihar Branch of the Bengal Asiatic Society, as we have said above, is to encourage the mutual intercourse and the growth of friendly feelings between all classes of the community, and the promoters have begun by excluding the Bengalis as a class. Again, a movement designed to promote the growth of friendly feeling between all classes of the community is set on foot by putting a grave slight upon the entire Native community of Bihar. We observe that not one of the Native gentlemen present at the meeting was asked to join the Provisional Committee which was formed for carrying out the resolutions of the meeting. A Mahomedan gentleman offered to make over his library consisting of about 3200 volumes to the proposed Society. He was thanked for his liberal offer, but even he was not added to the provisional Committee, which was composed of Messrs. Halliday, Metcalfe, Kemble and Grierson, all officials of Patna.

One of the resolutions passed at the meeting was, that the Provisional Committee be asked to correspond with the residents of other Districts in Behar *through the Collectors of those Districts* to establish branch Committees for raising subscriptions and otherwise promoting the foundation of the Society. We do not understand why the residents of other Districts of Bihar should be addressed through the Collectors of those districts, unless it be that, official pressure is to be exercised in collecting subscriptions. A request for subscription emanating from the Magistrate-Collector will be tantamount to a command, and no Native gentleman who has any stake in the district will dare refuse to comply with it. We must therefore emphatically protest against the residents of Behar being asked for subscriptions for the proposed Asiatic Society through the district officers. It is a great pity that our duty should compel us to throw cold water on a project which is commendable and deserves everybody's support; but these officials of Bihar are managing things in such way that we cannot help condemning their proceedings; the more particularly as we happen to remember, some very large subscriptions raised by Mr. Taylor and others for agricultural societies, cattle farming, mechanic institutes art schools and of which no trace now remains. No, we beg pardon of the authorities that be. There is a trace of at least one of the projects, a fine English bull, in the garden of a Mahomedan gentleman over the railroad which we were told once belonged to the agricultural farm. As for the lakhs raised by subscription we ask, *where*, and echo answers in its usual unsatisfactory way.

MR. GROWSE'S VINDICATION.*

THIS is the first of what is most likely to prove a long series of replies to Mr. Fergusson's new pamphlet on "Archæology in India." That the replies will throw any considerable amount of new light on the subject mooted we cannot anticipate. However cautious and anxious the controversialists may be to avoid all personalities and to adhere strictly to the historical questions raised, they must fail, and the replies must be bristling with more or less of repulsive personalities This is due entirely to the nature of Mr. Fergusson's attack. Nothing can be more deplorable than the tone and temper in which it has been written. Acting on the principle which regulated Sir John Fallstaff's commissariat, Mr. Fergusson has doled out only a pennyworth of fact amid endless sacks of fiction, and those who attempt to reply to such a production may as well calculate upon producing silken purses out of hog's bristles as essays of unalloyed scientific discussion on the texts placed before them. The attack is throughout most wrecklessly and mendaciously personal, and the replies must be in the nature of things personal, or nothing at all. The scene suggested by Mr. Fergusson writing his pamphlet is that of a Whistler in atmosphere of infirmity relieved by Mr. Hannibal Chollop descanting on the merits of his country with Martin Chuzzlewit at Eden while bespattering the room with chewed tobacco juice. The six-shooter is ready cocked, the bowie knife is playfully in hand, and the bludgeon stands conveniently by the side, while the Ripper and the Tickler are ready in their respective positions. Under the circumstances it is hopeless to expect a gentlemanly warfare, and the best course for the assailed to follow is, in our opinion, to adopt the advice of Savage given in regard to the foul-mouthed critic, Dennis:

> "Say what revenge on Dennis can be had,
> Too dull for laughter, for reply too mad.
> On one so poor you cannot take the law,
> On one so old your sword you scorn to draw.
> Uncaged then, let the harmless monster rage,
> Secure in dullness, madness, want, and age."

This is, however, not to be. Human nature is human nature, and few can sit quiet under malicious, mendacious foul charges without a desire to give due castigation to the maligner. And when one condescends to touch pitch—he cannot keep his fingers clean. To put it in another form. To whip a caitiff is at times necessary, but even the most refined of gentlemen cannot appear in the best of mood or pose when administering the well-deserved castigation. We are glad to add, however, that Mr. Growse, in this vindication has been very successful in this respect. He is a thorough scholar and perfect gentleman. His writings of the last twenty years attest the goodness of his temper, the refinement of his feeling, and the classical purity of his literary taste—and even in passing through Mr. Fergusson's stye he has kept himself remarkably clean. In the opening lines of his reply, Mr. Growse gives voice to a feeling which must be shared by every scholar. He says, "I regret exceedingly that such a pretentious display of overweening self-sufficiency should ever have been published." And we have no hesitation in saying that even some of the most intimate friends of Mr. Fergusson will not deny that the charge would have been the most effectual if it had not been delivered at all. Adverting to the bull's-eye of Mr. Fergusson's target Mr. Growse says:

> In your battle with Dr. Mitra, it seems to me that you have now entrenched yourself in a very different position from that which you originally undertook to defend; and, after reading your 'Personal" remarks, I can only say that if an Englishman (as you think) might fairly object to being tried by a native Judge who betrays such strong national prejudices, a native might still more reasonably shrink from pleading his cause before you, after this specimen of your violence, shiftiness, and unbounded personal arrogance. But I leave the Babu to speak for himself, which he is very well able to do.

But this is by the way. It does not bear on the vindication, and we quote it simply to show how the feeling has turned in favour of our distinguished countryman. The main contention between the two archæologists is not one of archæology, but of memory. Mr. Fergusson visited Brindabun in 1859, and during a short sojourn of a few hours, devoted mainly to tracing the outlines of the Temple of Govind Deva under a camera lucida, prepared a ground plan from which he omitted all reference to two side chapels, and now insists that they never existed. Mr. Growse was engaged in repairing the temple under orders of Government, eight years ago, and after repeated and careful inspection (*i. e.* as much inspection as could be permitted in a Hindu temple now in use and carefully guarded from foreign intrusion) insists that those chapels existed for a long time and their traces are still extant and the question at issue is whose memory is correct, that of Mr. Growse who was the Magistrate of the District for several years and left it only 7 years ago? or that of Mr. Fergusson who saw the place for a few hours only when travelling as an artist on the hospitality of some native chiefs, nearly half a century ago, and is now in his seventy-seventh year? Common sense ought to decide such a quarrel fast enough, and Mr. Growse may well feel surprised that in such a case he should be "thus wrecklessly attacked by a self-sufficient dogmatist in England." With a meekness characteristic of his temper Mr. Growse asks the Government of the North-Western Provinces to appoint an expert and report on the fact. We look upon this as the weakest part of the Vindication, which, without it, is perfect. We object to this the more as we think the umpire named is utterly incompetent. Who can be satisfied with the evidence of honest Sancho on the valorous deeds of the knight of the windmill? We are satisfied, however, that the Government will not be so mistaken as to fail to perceive the vile arrogance and intolerant bombast involved in the dispute. Adverting to a correction made by Mr. Fergusson without acknowledging the source whence he got it Mr. Growse closes his letter with the following rapier-thrust. "It is extremely gratifying to find that you are still so receptive of new ideas, and I trust that you will soon acquire the further grace of honestly confessing your conversion, instead of attempting to disguise it, as now, under a cloud of equivocation." We earnestly wish, though we have slender reason to believe, that this "trust" is not misplaced.

* A Reply to Mr. Fergusson's Diatribe entitled "Archæology in India." By F. S. Growse C. I. E.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

IT WAS decided at the meeting of the Town Council on Saturday last that applications for the Vice-Chairmanship of the Calcutta Municipality, which has became vacant by the death of Rai Shama Charan Dey Bahadur, would be received till the 12th of August next. It was also decided that Mr. Turnbull, the able and popular Secretary of the Corporation, should be requested to conduct the duties of the Vice-Chairman *pro tem* in addition to those of his own; and that in consideration of the gratuitous services he rendered to the Corporation during the absence on privilege leave of Babus Srinath Ghose, and Shama Charan Dey, Mr. Turnbull should receive the full pay of the Vice-Chairman in addition to his own. This is an act of bare justice to Mr. Turnbull, than whom the Calcutta Municipality has not got a more worthy servant.

WE TAKE the following from the *Indian Mirror*:

Golaghat, 9th July.—Another Sibsagar Planter, a European is in trouble. One Mr. BYRNE, Manager, Brahmaputra Company, while out shooting, on Sunday last, wild buffaloes in a dense high jungle between Chaklain and Moabund Tea gardens, shot at one of his Mahuts on elephant-back forming his *shikar* party taking him for a buffalo. The Mahut receiving one shot in the neck, and another in the costal regions, died instantaneously. Mr. BYRNE, reported the mishap to the Jorehat Police. He is, I think, a Lieutenant of the newly constituted Assam Volunteer Corps.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Statesman* writes:

Babu Nobogopal Banerjee and Babu Ramessur Mookerjee are *no more*. Babu Nobogopal Banerjee was a step brother of Babu Kali Churn Banerjee, the well-known speaker, and a pleader of the Calcutta High Court. He was about 50, and of a robust and healthy constitution, and if he had not been dragged up to this station might have lived to a good old age in the bosom of his family in Calcutta. He died of erysipelas; and Babu Ramessur Mookerjee, who was also a middle-aged strong man, died of diphtheria. These two are the first victims this year of the removal to Simla.

These are typical cases, but are by no means the only instances of the heartless manner in which lives are sacrificed on the hills. Complaints are loud and deep about the compulsory removal of the native establishments to the hills. The sufferings of native clerks who are dragged up to the hills simply to gratify the whims of the heads of departments are really dreadful, and we cannot condemn too strongly the 'callous selfishness' which marks the proceedings of the Government with regard to the exodus to the hills. We fully agree with the *Statesman* that if the Government should persevere in its "resolution to subject their native establishments to the heavy suffering which is incident to a life at Simla, the men should respectfully refuse to go, on the reasonable ground that the conditions of the service are being wholly changed thereby; and we make no doubt that Her Majesty's Judges of the High Court, would hold that the Government was not at liberty to make any such vital change in the conditions of their service, as this transfer to Simla involves."

THE NATIVE Jailor of Gowhatti brought a libel suit against the editor and printer of the *Englishman* for publishing the following para in the letter of its Dhubri correspondent :

The Bengalee Jailor at Gowhati seems to have given offence to a Marwari in the station in connection with some pecuniary transaction. The Marwari smelt out somehow that the Jailor was making a fortune out of the prisoners and gave information to the European Superintendent of the Jail that things were not as they should be. He was asked to sign a charge, and readily did so, and on a search warrant being obtained, the Native Jailor's quarters were found to be a veritable depot for all the stolen goods in the station for many months past. But the remainder of the story did not end here, and though it may be termed a romance, the facts are worthy of more than newspaper record. It transpired that the Bengali Jailor had to look to the safety of two old offenders, who were then undergoing long sentences of imprisonment in the Jail. He would let them out after dark, to commit burglaries and thefts, and let them in again before day-light, pocketing the proceeds of all their doings during the night.

The following apology has been tendered by the *Englishman* :

Correspondents of newspapers are, of course, always liable to be misinformed, but in this case the facts were presumably of public notoriety, given as of cases which had actually been tried, so that it was impossible for us to suspect that our correspondent had been the victim of a stupid and unjustifiable hoax. As regards the first case, nothing further need be said, but as regards the second, we take the earliest opportunity to tender our sincere apology to the Native Jailor of Gowhati, whose character has thus been unwittingly aspersed in these columns."

CALCUTTA mourns just now the death of one of her most worthy sons. Rai Shama Churn Dey, Bahadur, Vice-Chairman of the Corporation died Tuesday last from the effects of a paralytic stroke. Rai Shaama Churn was born in the village of Paitihat, an obscure village in the district of Hooghly, in October 1821. He first joined the Hare School, and then the old Hindu College. Here he attracted the notice of that great Philanthropist, David Hare, who selected him for an appointment in the Treasury at the request of the Treasury authorities. When only 19 years old he commenced life as a clerk on Rs. 40 a month, and by dint of application and energy rose to the high post of Assistant Comptroller General. The life of Shama Charn was in many respects instructive. Calm and unassuming in his demeanour, he possessed a quickness of apprehension and mastery of details of no mean order. As Assistant Comptroller General, his services were highly appreciated by his official superiors. Rai Shama Churn was nominated by Mr. Harrison, Comptroller General, to give evidence before the Finance Committee of the House of Commons on the score of his great experience, marked intelligence, and accurate memory. Bad health prevented him from going across the seas. In 1869, Rai Shama Charan was deputed to Allahabad as Accountant General, North-Western Provinces to set aright the office there, which had run into disorder. As a further mark of confidence Government appointed him Auditor of the Bank of Bengal. After 39 years of meritorious service he retired on a pension in July 1879. Government conferred on him the title of Rai Bahadur in consideration of his distinguished services. As Vice-Chairman of the Municipality, his career was essentially popular and he was liked by all who came in contact with him. In his private life, Shama Churn had many inestimable qualities. He was a warm friend, a highly respected citizen, and an ardent lover of his country. Though orthodox in his views and opinions, he nevertheless helped in the carrying out substantial measures of reform. He was one of the strong supporters of the Hindu Family Annuity Fund, which in consequence of his sustained support has flourished so much as to take rank with some of the popular institutions of the land. Rai Shamachurn exercised the virtue of self-denial beyond compare. His motto was 'live for others.' This was no maudlin sentimentalism of his, but was a point on which the entire character of the man hinged. No matter whether it was the want or distress of a neighbour, or the difficulties of a friend or relation Shamacharn's charity was open-handed, and were it not for this disposition of his, he would have lived and died in a more prosperous man. The deceased possessed uncommon outspokenness and never hesitated to call a spade a spade, but his outspokenness never displeased or offended any body. His death is deeply mourned by a large circle of friends and relatives.

WE ARE GLAD to see His Honor the Lieutenant Governor has at last acceded to the prayer of the Mahomedans of Rajshye by retaining the junior classes of the abolished Madrissa as a branch of the Rajshye College at a monthly cost of Rs. 200, to be defrayed out of the Mohsin Grant. The cost of the college classes of the Madrassa hitherto paid from the Mosh in Fund will be charged to General Revenues as is done in the case of the college classes of the Sanskrit College, because there is no reason why the support accorded by the Government to English Education in the Calcutta Madrassa should stop short at the Entrance [standard leaving all education of a higher class to be provided for from Mahomedan endowments, which would deprive Rajshye of such assistance as the needs of the people required. The transfer of the Rajshye grant from the Moshin Fund to the Calcutta Madrassa was an act of injustice to the Mahomedans of the district and gave rise to great disappointment and displeasure among them. We hope the proposed arrangements will be every way satisfactory to them. There is a proposal to repay to the Moshin Fund Rs. 20,000 being nearly two-thirds of the cost of the Rajshye Madrissa buildings which will now be partly devoted to the use of the Rajshye College and partly used as a hostel by the Madrassa students. But owing to some difficulties this proposal will have to be probably deferred to the next financial year.

MESSRS. W. H. ALLEN & Co., publishers, London, announce the early appearance of a weekly paper specially devoted to Eastern topics entitled *The Oriental Review*. Mr. Edward St. John Fairman M. R. A. S., a gentleman who held an important position in Turkey and Egypt for a quarter of a century, is to be the Editor-in-Chief. Most of the English newspapers unfortunately devote only a small amount of space to India and very few write about it with any real knowledge of its social, commercial and political condition. The time has come when we can ill spare papers like the one under notice and the amount of good that such a special organ of Oriental topics in Europe is capable of doing has been illustrated by journals like *Allen's Indian Mail* which at present is doing yoman's service in the cause of India by representing to the British public the actual state of affairs here. If the promoters of the proposed journal fulfil their promise of "enlightening Europe correctly as to oriental matters," they will have rendered very great service to India as well as to other Eastern countries. We hope the appreciative public will not be backward in supporting an important undertaking like this.

THE GOVERNMENT denounced us in no measured terms—calling us "dishonest," and "dishonorable," and what not—for likening the last Assam Cooly Bill to the Fugitive Slave Law of the United States ; but mere protestations do not, and cannot, change that which is radically bad into something substantially good, and step by step every evil which we apprehended would arise from the Bill is being verified. In the *Englishman* of the 8th a correspondent, signing himself *Tea*, and writing a business letter from Cachar, says : "I do not speak as a sufferer, on the contrary, I have been able to restore to their legitimate owners ten coolies since the beginning of this year, [and HAVE AT PRESENT IN MY CUSTODY A COOLY AWAITING IDENTIFICATION." This means, if it means any thing, that this amiable gentle youth TEA, has of late made it his pastime to place in durance vile every way-farer that falls in his way and whom he fancies to be a runaway. In America, during the slavery days, the test of color was unmistakeable and decided, but in India where all are more or less black the test—the only test—of a runaway cooly is the fancy of the slave-catcher. He is no complainant, he has lost no slave, he is at peace with the world, but he beholds a miserable passenger in the way and straightway puts him into a pound of his own making, and keeps him there till a brother planter should turn up to claim him. There is no limit as to time ; the man may rest for months and years unless the jailor should, in his amiable mood, think fit to let him off, because no claimant has turned up, and he has no need for an extra hand. Under the British Indian Law a cow or a goat so detained in a private place and worked for profit, instead of being sent to the nearest pound, would amount to a theft. But there is no law in the land to protect a poor man of his personal liberty, if he is once declared by some one, interested or otherwise, to be a cooly. There is a line in Tea's letter which is peculiarly suggestive. He says, "a central recognised garden would receive letters from the losers as well as the GAINERS." Who are these gainers ? If there be any meaning in the words it means that some planter gentlemen place violent hands on whomsoever they find in the way and at last get more recruits in that way than what they lose by desertion. We appeal to Lord Ripon in the name of humanity if under his administration the personal liberty of of Her Majesty's Native Indian subjects be so utterly devoid of legal protection. In the whole of Tea's letter there is not a single reference to any police intervention at any stage of the procee dings in *re* these human chattels.

DR DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Dr. Sinclair Coghill, Physician to the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Ventnor, writes : —"For many years I have, in private practice, exclusively prescribed the Cod Liver Oil of Dr. de Jongh, for a large and intimate experience of its superiority as a remedial agent in appropriate cases to other Cod Liver Oils ignorantly lauded on account of their comparative tastelessness and lightness of colour. More recently I have had, in the Royal National Hospital for Consumption here, an opportunity of instituting a more extensive and systematic comparison, and I have convinced myself that in Tubercular and the various forms of Strumous Disease, Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil possesses greater therapeutic efficacy than any other Cod Liver Oil with which I am acquainted. It was especially noted, in a large number of cases in which the patients protested they had never been able to retain or digest other Cod Liver Oil, that Dr. de Jongh's Oil was not only tolerated, but taken readily, and with marked benefit. Dr. de Jongh's Oil is now the only Cod Liver Oil used in the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	RS.	AS.	P.
C. S. Bedford Esq, Hazareebagh	13	4	0
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P. N. Ghose Esq., Jounpore	6	10	0
Ranee Monmohiny Davi, Putiah	13	4	0
Babu Mon Mohun Chunder, Purneah	3	0	0
" Nundjee, Chybassa	10	0	0
" Kadar Nath Roy, Howra	10	0	0
" Radhicapersad Chuckerbutty, Jerat Bolagore	10	0	0
" Obhoy Churn Sen, Palamow	6	10	
" Tarnck Nath Muschatak Kotra	13	4	0
" Chunder Vooson Chuckerbutty, Noakhally	13	4	0
" Krishna Chunder Chowdry, Burdwan	13	4	0
" Krishna Chunder Mookerjee, Dhenoanal	10	0	0
" Boikant Nath Roy, Chittagong	3	0	0
" Obinash Chunder Ghose, Lucknow	6	10	0
" Joteepersad Singh, Macalpore	6	10	0
" Kally Churn Banerjee, Seetna	3	5	0
" Shoseevooson Mookerjee, Benares	13	4	0
" Nocoree Dhur, Dacca	10	0	0
" Umakant Das, Agartola Tipperah	13	4	0
" Chunder Nath Roy Chowdry, Minahan	7	4	0
" Woopendro Chunder Dutt, Purneah	6	10	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*9th July* 1884.

28th June—Munshi Dedar Bukhsh, Tempy Sub-Depy Colr, on land registration work at Cuttack, is transfd to Khoorda in Pooree, vice Mr C A W Fordyce, on deputn, from date he joined his apptmt.

Baboo Gopal Ballao Das, M A temply to be a Sub-Depy Colr for employment on the land registration work at Cuttack, vice Munsei Dedar Bukhsh, from date he joined his apptmt.

The following officers of the Behar Light Horse leave for six months each, from 1tst May 1884:—

Capt E G Williams and Capt L J Crowdy.

Baboo Bhoobendro Nath Roy, Tempy Sub Depy Colr, Palamow, Lohardugga, leave for six months from date he may be relieved.

Baboo Udai Chand Palit to act as Sub-Depy Colr, Palamow, Lohardugga, during absence of Baboo Bhoobendro Nath Roy.

30th June—Mr C J S Faulder, offg Jt Magte and Depy Colr, Bhagulpore, to perform the functions of a Colr under sec 4 of Act VII B C of 1880 in that dist, vice Baboo Gobindo Mohun Ghose.

Mr G E Manisty, C S reported his departure from India on furlough, on 17th June, 1884.

2nd July—Baboo Bogola Prosanno Mozoomdar, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Siligoree, Darjeeling, leave for three months, from date he may be relieved.

Baboo Ganendra Nauth Pal, offg Depy Magte and Depy, Colr, Noakholly, is transfd to Darjeeling, and posted to Siligoree.

This cancels order of 28th May last granting him three months' privilege leave.

3rd July—Mr W F Meres, Dist and Sess Judge of Midnapore, leave for three months, from 28th inst or subsequent date.

Mr H Gillon, Offg Dist and Sess Judge, Cuttack, to act as Dist and Sess Judge of Midnapore, during absence of Mr W F Meres.

Baboo Tarini Prosad Roy, Depy Colr, to perform the functions of a colr under sect 4 of Act VII (B C) of 1880 in Dacca.

7th July—Baboo Gobindo Mohun Ghose, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Bhagulpore, leave for six months from 2nd June, 1884.

4th July—In modification of order of 31st May last published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 4th ult, Mr T E Coxhead, Offg Magte and Colr, Burdwan, leave for three months, from 2nd prox or subsequent date.

Mr H J H Fasson, Offg Magte and Colr of Gya, to act as Magte and Colr of Burdwan, during absence, on deputn of Mr W R Larminie.

8th July—Mr W H Verner, Dist and Sess Judge, Bhagulpore, on leave, to act in first grade of Dist and Sess Judges, from 7th April, 1884.

Mr T M Kirkwood, Offg Dist and Sess Judge, Moorshedabad, to act in first grade of Dist and Sess Judges, from 18th April, 1884.

Mr P Nolan, Offg Magte and Colr, Shahabad, to act in second grade of Magtes and Colrs, from 1st April, 1884.

Mr J G Charles, Offg Addnl Dist and Sess Judge, 24-Perghs and Hooghly, acted in first grade of Dist and Sess Judges from 6th to 13th June, 1884.

Mr H G Cooke, Offg Magte and colr, Tipperah, to act in second grade of Magte and colr, from 3rd June, 1884.

Mr W Fiddian, Offg Magte and colr, Beerbhoom, to act in second grade of Magtes and colrs from 1st June 1884.

Major C H Garbett, Depy Comr, Singbhoom, to act in second grade of Depy Comrs, from 7th April, 1884.

Mr G H Garbett, Depy Comr, Singbhoom, to act in second, trade of Depy Comrs, from 17th April 1884.

Mr H G Sharp, Offg Magte and Colr, Furreedpore, to act in second grade of Magtes and Colrs, from 13th April 1884.

Lieut-Col W L Samuells, Offg Depy Comr, Lohardugga, to act in third grade of Depy Comrs, from 7th April 1884.

Mr F J G Campbell, Dist and Sess Judge, Furreedpore, acted in first grade of Dist and Sess Judges, from 21st April to 5th May 1884.

Mr W F Meres, Dist and Sess Judge, Midnapore, acted in first grade of Dist and Sess Judges, from 6th May, to 23rd June 1884.

Mouivie Wahidullah, Special Depy Colr, Sonthal perghs, furlough for two years.

Police—5th July—Mr G R K Meares, Dist Supdt of Police, Gya, leave for three months, from 19th Augt next or subsequent date.

Mr H N Harris, Dist Supdt of Police, to act as Dist Supdt of Police, Gya, during absence of Mr G R K Meares.

17th June—The following Tempy Asst Supdt of police to act as Asst Supdt of police, from dates mentioned opposite their names:—

Mr H M Parish, 6th April, 1884; Mr H W Boileau, 14th April, 1884.

Ecclesiastical—5th July—The Rev Parbutty Churn Roy Pastor, Lakhikantapore in 24-Perghs, is authorised, under Clause 5, Sec 4, Act XV of 1872, to grant certificates of marriage between persons who are native Christians.

The Rev T L J Warneford, Chapln of fort William, leave for three months, from 5th inst.

Education—30th June—Mr J S Slater has been granted by H M's Secy of State for India an extension of furlough for three months.

June—Baboo Sib Chandra Gui, MA, Lecturer Sanskrit College, (Class V and offg in class IV), temply substantive to Class IV of the Bengal Sub Educl Service, from 15th May 1884, vice Baboo Nilkanta Sirkar, on deputn.

Baboo Uma Prasad De, Depy Inspr of Schools, Bogra (class V), to act in class IV of the Bengal Sub Educl Service, from 1st June, 1884, vice Baboo Nanda Lal Das.

July—Mr Wood Mason to act as profr of Comparative Anatomy in the Calcutta Medl College in addn to his own duties as Offg Spdt of the Indian Museum, during absence of Dr J Anderson.

Opium—3rd July—Mr Kemble, Opium Agent, Behar, leave for three months, from 20th inst, or subsequent date.

Mr C T Metcalf, CSI, Magte and Colr of Patna, to act as Opium Agent, Behar, during absence of Mr W Kumble.

Medical—28th June—Asst Surg Hari Mohun Sen, a Supernry at the Presidency, tempy to have medl charge of the sub-divn of Giridhi, in Hazaribagh.

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A Special General Meeting of the Commissioners will be held at the Town Hall, on Tuesday, the 15th July 1884 *at* 3 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

I. Adjourned Meeting of the 10th of April.

The Chairman to move that as at an adjourned Meeting, only the business left unfinished at the previous Meeting can be transacted, and as it is expedient to proceed to the business choosing a whole time Health Officer *De Novo*, the Meeting of the 10th April be again adjourned *Sine Die*, and a fresh Special General Meeting summoned to consider the claims of all who have applied for the appointment, both those who have sent in applications from England, and those who have applied in this country.

At the close of the Adjourned Meeting a Special General Meeting will be held to consider the following business :—

(1.) The Government letter replying to the letter of the Commissioners, dated the 21st of June, and the resolution of the Town Council recommending the nomination of Babu Kalinath Mitter and Babu Judoo Lal Mullick to represent the Commissioners on the octroi Committee.

(2.) The report of the Vaccination Committee.

(3.) Chairman to propose that as there is a probability of large funds being available in 1885-6, for the sanitary and structural improvement of the Town, it is expedient to propose beforehand a comprehensive scheme for utilising the money to the best advantage.

And if this is carried that the preparation of the scheme be entrusted to a Committee to be chosen at the Meeting.

(4.) To consider the proposal of the Sanitary Committee to make over the Conservancy Department to the Health Officer.

(5.) To make arrangements under Section 37 for carrying on the duties of the Vice Chairman.

(6.) To consider the question of taxing Bicycles and Tricycles as carriages.

(7.) Confirmation of Meetings of the Town Council.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corparation of Calcutta

EASTERN SYSTEM OF STATE RAILWAYS.

Consequent upon the assumption by the Government of India of the administration of the Eastern Bengal Railway and the amalgamation therewith of the Poradah branch and of the Calcutta and South Eastern State Railway which have effect from this date, it is hereby notified for general information that, all communications which are intended for the head of this new railway administration, should be addressed to the Manager Bengal Eastern System of State Railways Sealdah. This system includes also the Bengal Central Railway.

Sealdah Railway Station, Dated 1st July 1884. } DE BOURBEL COL. R. E. Manager *protem* Bengal Eastern System of State Railways.

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HIGH COURT.

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Sreemutty Monemohiney Dassee.

Vs

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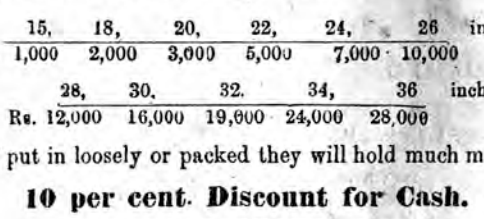

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